

## Stately Homes and Gardens

Wiltshire is home to a world-class collection of gardens and stately homes, and its sweeping landscapes are studded with horticultural gems.

[Stourhead's](#) harmonic vistas - especially the classic view of the Turf Bridge, lake and Pantheon on the opposite shore - seem to epitomise the county as a whole. This outstanding stately home, one of Wiltshire's finest 18<sup>th</sup> century landscaped gardens, is a delicious mix of formal and informal features. And it's not just the gardens that draw visitors, for at Stourhead's heart lies a Palladian mansion filled with glittering furnishings and objects d'art.

At [Bowood House and Gardens](#), master landscaper 'Capability' Brown created a flowing mix of woodlands and lawns sloping down to a lake, overlooked by the formal terraces of an imposing stately home. Bowood has an all-round appeal, for set amongst its woods is an imaginatively designed Adventure Playground for younger visitors.

[Longleat](#) is a beautiful stately home in Wiltshire and also attracts a family audience. The house, seat of the Marquess of Bath, is surrounded by magnificent grounds that again bear the mark of industrious 18<sup>th</sup> century landscaper 'Capability' Brown.

[Wilton House](#) is another stately home in Wiltshire. Here, the magnificent 450-year-old house – seen in films such as Sense and Sensibility and Pride and Prejudice - stands amongst parklands, woodlands and water gardens.

[Lydiard House and Park](#) near Swindon is a Palladian jewel. With its formal parkland, pasture, beautiful woodland walks, avenues and lake, it still retains the grand design of its 18<sup>th</sup> century heyday.

[Mompesson House](#) in Salisbury's Cathedral Close is a Queen Anne-style with a small, courtyard garden. It was also used in the film Sense and Sensibility.

Make sure you also visit The Peto Garden, a little corner of Italy at [Iford Manor](#), near Bradford on Avon.

And don't forget that many other beautiful Wiltshire gardens are open to the public on selected dates throughout the year through The National Gardens Scheme.



*The lake and temple at Stourhead House*



*The gardens at Bowood House*

**For further information or to arrange a press visit please contact Florence Wallace,  
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